

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 726

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to eligible entities to conduct diagnostic testing for COVID–19, and related activities such as contact tracing, through mobile health units and, as necessary, at individuals’ residences, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 2, 2021

Mr. RUSH (for himself, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARSON, Ms. CHU, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEAN, Ms. DEGETTE, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. EVANS, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. MENG, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MORELLE, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. SIRES, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to eligible entities to conduct diagnostic testing for COVID–19, and related activities such as contact tracing, through mobile health units and, as necessary, at individuals’ residences, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “COVID–19 Testing,  
3 Reaching, And Contacting Everyone (TRACE) Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. COVID–19 TESTING AND CONTACT TRACING USING**  
5 **MOBILE HEALTH UNITS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and  
7 Human Services, acting through the Director of the Cen-  
8 ters for Disease Control and Prevention, may award  
9 grants to eligible entities to conduct diagnostic testing for  
10 COVID–19, to trace and monitor the contacts of infected  
11 individuals, and to support the quarantine of such con-  
12 tacts, through—

13 (1) mobile health units; and

14 (2) as necessary, testing individuals and pro-  
15 viding individuals with services related to testing and  
16 quarantine at their residences.

17 (b) PERMISSIBLE USES OF FUNDS.—A grant recipi-  
18 ent under this section may use the grant funds, in support  
19 of the activities described in subsection (a)—

20 (1) to hire, train, compensate, and pay the ex-  
21 penses of individuals; and

22 (2) to purchase personal protective equipment  
23 and other supplies.

24 (c) PRIORITY.—In selecting grant recipients under  
25 this section, the Secretary shall give priority to—

1           (1) applicants proposing to conduct activities  
2 funded under this section in hot spots and medically  
3 underserved communities; and

4           (2) applicants that agree, in hiring individuals  
5 to carry out activities funded under this section, to  
6 hire residents of the area or community where the  
7 activities will primarily occur, with higher priority  
8 among applicants described in this paragraph given  
9 based on the percentage of individuals to be hired  
10 from such area or community.

11       (d) DISTRIBUTION.—In selecting grant recipients  
12 under this section, the Secretary shall ensure that grants  
13 are distributed across urban and rural areas.

14       (e) FEDERAL PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—Nothing in  
15 this section shall be construed to supersede any Federal  
16 privacy or confidentiality requirement, including the regu-  
17 lations promulgated under section 264(c) of the Health  
18 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996  
19 (Public Law 104–191; 110 Stat. 2033) and section 543  
20 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290dd–2).

21       (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22           (1) The term “eligible entity” means—

23               (A) a federally qualified health center (as  
24 defined in section 1861(aa) of the Social Secu-  
25 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(aa)));

1 (B) a school-based health clinic;

2 (C) a disproportionate share hospital (as  
3 defined under the applicable State plan under  
4 title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
5 1396 et seq.) pursuant to section 1923(a)(1)(A)  
6 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r-4));

7 (D) an academic medical center;

8 (E) a nonprofit organization (including any  
9 such faith-based organization);

10 (F) an institution of higher education (as  
11 defined in section 101 of the Higher Education  
12 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001));

13 (G) a high school (as defined in section  
14 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
15 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801)); or

16 (H) any other type of entity that is deter-  
17 mined by the Secretary to be an eligible entity  
18 for purposes of this section.

19 (2) The term “emergency period” has the  
20 meaning given to that term in section 1135(g)(1)(B)  
21 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b-  
22 5(g)(1)(B)).

23 (3) The term “hot spot” means a geographic  
24 area where the rate of infection with the virus that  
25 causes COVID-19 exceeds the national average.

1           (4) The term “medically underserved commu-  
2           nity” has the meaning given to that term in section  
3           799B of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.  
4           295p).

5           (5) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary  
6           of Health and Human Services.

7           (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry  
8           out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated—

- 9           (1) \$100,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2021; and  
10          (2) such sums as may be necessary for each of  
11          fiscal year 2022 and any subsequent fiscal year dur-  
12          ing which the emergency period continues.

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